

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1648

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain water distribution systems of the Cachuma Project, California, to the Carpinteria Valley Water District and the Montecito Water District.

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AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain water distribution systems of the Cachuma Project, California, to the Carpinteria Valley Water District and the Montecito Water District.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Carpinteria and
3 Montecito Water Distribution Systems Conveyance Act of
4 2003”.

5 **SEC. 2. CONVEYANCE OF WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS**
6 **OF THE CACHUMA PROJECT, CALIFORNIA.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior—

8 (1) may convey to the Carpinteria Valley Water
9 District, located in Santa Barbara County, Cali-
10 fornia, all right, title, and interest of the United
11 States in and to the Carpinteria Distribution System
12 of the Cachuma Project, California, consistent with
13 the terms and conditions set forth in the agreement
14 entitled “Agreement Between the United States and
15 the Carpinteria Valley Water District to Transfer
16 Title to the Federally Owned Distribution System to
17 the Carpinteria Valley Water District” (Agreement
18 No. 00–XC–20–0364); and

19 (2) may convey to the Montecito Water Dis-
20 trict, located in Santa Barbara County, California,
21 all right, title, and interest of the United States in
22 and to the Montecito Water Distribution System of
23 the Cachuma Project, California, consistent with the
24 terms and conditions set forth in the agreement en-
25 titled “Agreement Between the United States and
26 the Montecito Water District to Transfer Title to

1 the Federally Owned Distribution System to the
2 Montecito Water District” (Agreement No. 01–XC–
3 20–0365).

4 (b) LIABILITY.—Effective upon the date of convey-
5 ance of a distribution system under this section, the
6 United States shall not be held liable by any court for
7 damages of any kind arising out of any act, omission, or
8 occurrence relating to the distribution system, except for
9 damages caused by acts of negligence committed by the
10 United States or by its employees or agents prior to the
11 date of conveyance. Nothing in this section increases the
12 liability of the United States beyond that provided in chap-
13 ter 171 of title 28, United States Code (popularly known
14 as the Federal Tort Claims Act) on the date of the enact-
15 ment of this Act.

16 (c) BENEFITS.—After conveyance of a water distribu-
17 tion system to the Carpinteria Valley Water District or
18 the Montecito Water District under this section—

19 (1) such water distribution system shall not be
20 considered to be a part of a Federal reclamation
21 project; and

22 (2) such water district shall not be eligible to
23 receive any benefits with respect to any facility com-
24 prising that distribution system, except benefits that
25 would be available to a similarly situated person

- 1 with respect to such a facility that is not part of a
- 2 Federal reclamation project.

Passed the House of Representatives November 17,
2003.

Attest:

Clerk.